that the acquittal of Dukes was the

it may be doubted whether more than a

be regretted, however, is the abuse of the plea

of insanity. Had the law permitted it, it is cer-

tain that a plain statement of the facts would

subterfuge. But the shallow pretence of insan-

ity, bolstered up by grave professional opinions,

can only tend to bring still more into disrepute

a plea which has been already extravagantly

overworked, and the ultimate effect may be a

reaction which will refuse the protection of the

It is evident that the practice of the courts

said, and more definitely the position of the in-

plea to eases where it properly belongs.

and as occurred in this Nutt case.

bett's hungry followers.

could have been expected.

ntolerably insolent.

the rightful owners.

CONGRESS AND THE RAILROADS.

pretty much Communistic, it is naturally del-

uged with bills to take away from railroad

companies lands and other property previously

granted. When Mr. Huntington and other

capitalists give reasons for opposing these

measures, their presence about the Capitol ex-

cites the Communists, as the waving of a red

flag does a mad ball. When they decline to

appear, they are said to treat Congress with

contempt. And if they venture to observe

that they have some rights of which Congress

cannot deprive them, the suggestion is termed

Now it happens to be the fact that, where the

conditions of grants by Congress have been

complied with in good faith, the legislative

branch of the Government has no more power

to take away the property granted than it has

to enact that the salary due to Speaker Car-

lisle shall hereafter be paid to Mr. Snooks

Furthermore, the question whether the condi-

tions of grants have been complied with in

good faith is one which the judicial branch of

the Government alone has power finally to de-

cide. Congress can resolve and enact to no end,

but if the courts find that the conditions have

been so performed as to make the contract

binding, no act of Congress will affect the rights of the parties in the slightest degree,

Where the grants have actually lapsed by nou-

fulfilment of conditions, as in some cases they

undoubtedly have, legislation is proper to pro-

vide for repossession by the Government of

the lands granted. But a large proportion of

the bills pending have no other aim than to

wrest from the holders property of which it is

POINTS FOR INVESTIGATION.

The testimony as to the loss of the City of

Columbus does not tend to greater clearness as

it increases in volume. At first it was roundly

alleged that the vessel went on the reef called

the Devil's Bridge, and that she did so through

keeping a course which the captain had given

to the quartermaster before leaving the deck.

The captain appears to have admitted giving

this course, and nothing was heard of any pre-

tence that he had also given orders to change

it at a certain point until yesterday, when the

report appeared that he claimed to have told the

second mate to make this change. Some fish-

ermen also now come forward and declare that

the steamer did not go on the Devil's Bridge,

but on a rock some three hundred feet outside

of it, and the captain is represented as assert-

ing, though for the first time, so far as is

known, that the second mate failed to change

the course as ordered, and consequently is

responsible for the disaster. It is evident from

this conflict and confusion of testimony that

nothing short of a thorough investigation can

clear up the mystery and fix the responsibility

At the same time it must be pointed out that

no matter what neglect of duty such an inquire

may show the second mate to have committed.

the captain cannot be acquitted of cubable

subordinate efficer under the circumstances.

It was clearly his duty not only to give proper

there appears to be but one opinion among the

masters of passenger vessels as to the obliga-

tion resting upon him to remain on deck until

his ship was out of danger. The fact is that no

captain carrying passengers can be justified in

delegating his trust during critical periods, nor

can there be any margin or allowance in his

responsibility. He alone is accountable for the

skill and judgment he possesses, and to watch

over their safety personally, and not by deputy,

whenever there is the least possibility of ser-

at such a time. But it is strange that the

quartermaster, who doubtless was familiar with

the course steered, has said nothing as to this

new theory. He appears to have been satisfied

when it was taken, would have brought her

where it belongs.

feared the courts would finally declare them

ande. to Adpertiseme us.

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New York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Foreign,-Admiral Courbet has received instructions not to attack Bac-Ninh until further orders. A mass was celebrated yesterday in memory of O'Donnell, ___ = Earl Grosvernor is dead, A murderer in Vienna confessed that he intended to murder the family of Baroness Malfatti.

A proposed strike of the French police is rumored. Congress,-The Senate confirmed the nomination of Emory Speer to be United States District-Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia. In the Senate petitions for the opening of the

Oklahoma lands were reported back, adversely; a bill was introduced to secure to the medical profession equal rights in the service of the Unit d States: the Anthony resolution, respecting retaliatory action to protect American meat products abroad, was debated, amend d and adopted; the bill to provide a civil government for Alaska was A reso ation relative to eleomargarine was introduced in the House; a bill was reported for the relief of Myra Clark Gaines; the Greely Relief Appropriation bill was passed; a bill

Domestic .- James Nutt was acquitted yesterday. - Cruelty is imputed to Richmond penitentiary The Fall River cotton manufacturers propose to cut down wages. - A new with the Onondara Indians has been nego-No more bodies were recovered from tiated. = the Gay Head wreck. - The State Librarian of New-Jersey has been removed. ____ A jury has been secured to try Rowell at Batavia.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.-The testimony for the defence in the Fenardent libel case was concluded yesterday. A west-bound freight pool was formed by the roads running out of Boston. Two Brazilians were arrested for arranging to fight a duel. ___ Mr. De Meli testified in his wife's suit for a divorce. — The funeral of Theron R. Butler took place. — A Liverpeol merchant was found dead in the street. - Mrs. Hampson, in Patersen, secured a verdict of \$9,000 for breach of promise. - Two more plans of rapid transit were discussed before the Commissioners, The Alumni of the College of the City of New-York dined at Delmonico's. Gold value of the legal-tender silver dollar (412 legarains), 85.62 cents. Stocks, with some fluctuations, generally were higher and closed steady at partial reactions.

THE WEATHER-TRIBUNG local observations indicate fair and cloudy weather, with higher temperature and chances of light rain. Temperature vesterday: Highest, 35°; lowest, 10°; average,

The Senate has acted wisely in regard retaliatory legislation touching the exclusion of American pork from Germany and France. The whole matter was referred yesterday to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. It is certainly well enough to wait until the Secretary of State furnishes Congress with all the correspondence which has passed between our Government and that of Germany and of France, before either House takes defi-

Nothing will be left undone to rescue Lieutenant Greely and his companions from their station at Lady Franklin Bay. The House yesterday passed a bill authorizing the purchase for the Arctic as early as possible next summer. The expedition will be in charge of the Navy Department, and the appropriation is not limited. Doubtless thorough and efficient preparation will be begun at once.

The policy of waiting for something to turn up seems to be in favor at present both with China and France. In Tonquiu the situation is apparently unchanged. The attack on Bac-Ninh has been delayed, although the Government at Paris has declared that it was daily expected. Now, however, it is reported that Admiral Courbet has been directed not to advance until further orders. Possibly the Ferry Ministry have finally been able to convince them, selves that China does mean to fight if Bac-Ninh is attacked.

The free scramble for West-bound freight be tween the railroads running into Boston has finally led to the establishment there of a pool similar to the Trunk Line Pool of New-York. This ar rangement cannot fail to have good -results, by putting an end to the ruinous competition which has heretofore seriously hurt the Boston through lines. A freight pool is not an absolute guarantee against a railway war, but it answers a good purpose while it

States has found practical expression in Senator Sewell's bill which was favorably reported table by the failure of justice which preceded it, yesterday from the Committee on Military Af- and through which Dukes was liberated. And fairs. It appropriates \$600,000 annually for it is very difficult to say what degree of responimproving the condition of the militia, instead sibility attaches to the man who avenges his of \$200,000 as heretofore. We hope that own wrong only when the constituted authorithis bill will receive due attention in both ties have betrayed their trust and failed to do Houses of Congress. It touches a matter of justice upon his enemy. Of the two it is certain real importance to the Nation, which for years has been sadly neglected. We have seven million men capable of bearing arms, and yet not a hundred thousand of them belong to the militia organizations of the country.

Some of the legislators at Albany are so earnest in their efforts to reduce the pilot fees that we are encouraged to hope that some reasonable bill in regard to the matter may finally pass both houses. The pilotage abuses at New-York have been frequently described in THE TRIBUNE; but attention may profitably be called to some of them again. All vessels entering this port, except constwise vessels, have to pay pilotage fees whether they use a pilot or not. This tax amounts to \$136 50 for a ship drawing twenty-one feet of water; and if she has to be towed in, it costs her \$65 more. These are the pilotage fees only; in addition to them, there are other dues which make the expenses of entering New-York harbor several nals as for the prevention of such perversions hundred dollars. It is indeed plain that the of the plea of insanity as frequently take place, most unjust of these burdens on our commerce, the pilotage fees, should be removed at once.

The value of good manuers and a pleasing address is once more illustrated in the story which is published elsewhere in The Tribune this morning concerning the career of the Port Jervis forger, J. G. P. Smith. This man was sentenced to several years' imprisonment in 1880 for forgery, and although the evidence against him was strong, many people who had known him refused to believe in his guilt. An effort was made to have him pardoned, and if Governor Cornell had been a less cantions man it would have succeeded. The Governor had inquiries made about the convict, and information soon came from Illinois that the fellow was a well-known forger, if not worse. It is needless to say that Smith was allowed to serve out his term, which will expire to-morrow. So strong a hold did be get on some of his new friends. however, that an effort is making to have the untried indictments against him quashed. It strikes us that this plausible rogue is just the kind that ought to be kept looked up if pos

EVASION NOT POSSIBLE,

In December the tariff divided the Democrats into two parties. In January it makes three parties of them-and the session is not yet near its end. The Carlisle men were understood to favor "a thorough overhauling of the tarifl," because of its alleged "abominations." The Randall men were opposed to such overhauling until after the Presidential election. But now we have a third party, which, perceiving that the party will staltify itself if it refuses to amend what it declares "abominable," and trusting that the voters will not have sense enough to distinguish a mere dodge from a radical change, proposes to make a horizontal reduction of a certain per cent on all duties and then to boast that the party has "reformed the tariff."

But, men and brethren, this is not a good year for dodges. Dull business and scanty employment sharpen the minds of voters. Probably there never was deeper interest in the tariff question than now, and the millions who live by wages comprehend the matter well from a Saturday-night point of view. Protection, the millions see, stimulates production; induces more people to put brains and money into manufactures. That, the millions say, insures waspassed relative to recoveries for infringement | better wages. If that system is to be abandoned or changed, the millions want to know why. The Democrats have been saying "Be-"cause the infamous system robs everybody else for the benefit of those engaged in the "protected manufactures." Now the millions "If you really believe that, you wil "repeal the duties which favor certain indus-"tries-and will do it at your peril if disaster comes. If you do not believe it, and so do not " repeal such duties, you have been lying to us, "and deserve no confidence." To get rid of the dilemma, the Democratic dolt proposes to leave the descriminations relatively as they are, but to cut down all duties alike. And he really fancies that the millions will not detect the fraud.

It was the discrimination which the Demoerats denounced as robbery. A thousand times they have said "If the tariff were so arranged "that every body would be benefited just as much as he was burdened, nobody would be hurt by it, and nobody would want it." But the sacrifice of present advantage for the sake of the greater fature advantage to come from building up a new industry, the surrender of benefits that can be seen for the sake of other and greater benefits that are indirect and not wholly seen-this the Democrat denounces as both stupid and wicked. Very well; believing what he pretends to believe, if he is an honest man, he will hold it a duty to abolish the diserimination made for such an end. But if he is not an honest man, he will leave the relative difference in present or apparent burdens and benefits as it is. In that case, he will try to cut the life out of protection by grading down all duties so low that they shall cease to promote the desired diversification of industries.

There is no room for juggling this year. The voters know what is going on, and are watching every day the shifting phases of Democratic trickery at Washington, They know what the present tariff is, and what sort of tariff they want. If a Democrat says "Let this tariff stand until we know how it works," and equipment of two steam whalers to set out they give him credit for some wisdom. If he says "Protection is robbery; come what may, we must assail it," they may respect the man while they resist the doctrine and the assault. But if he professes a holy hatred of discriminations for the protection of industry, and yet proposes to keep up those discriminations by grading duties down horizontally, the voters will pronounce him both stamped and distancest.

THE ACQUITIAL OF NUTT. The acquittal of young Nutt on the ground of insanity may be said to have been a foregone conclusion, and it may also be said that it was the direct consequence of the malfeasance of the jury that tried Dukes for the murder of the most solemn way to guard them with all the Nutt's father. The whole case was an exceptional one. Dukes slandered the daughter and then killed the father. He ought to have been convicted of murder in the first degree, and jous accident. Should it therefore appear that hanged, but he was acquitted in the most scan- the second mate failed to change the course as dalous way. Here then the administration of ordered, the fact would only emphasize the justice broke down, and left an outraged and culpability of the captain in leaving the deck injured family without vindication or redress for the cruellest of wrongs. It was not surprising under the circumstances that young Nutt should consider himself bound to avenge his father and sister, and should kill that the steamer was steering a course which, Dukes. This having been done, however, it had she been where she ought to have been became necessary to find a pretext for exonerat-

a failure of justice, but it was rendered inevi- the theory of the neglected order to change the course. Another hypothesis, to the effect that the

steamer was set over by the wind and current, explains nothing. If it were true it would amount to an impeachment of the captain's seamanship, or a proof of his criminal carelessness; for it was his business to understand, note, and allow for, all such influences, and if he falled to do so he was not fit to be in comgreater scandal, and no matter what theoretical mand of a vessel. Probably he himself would respect the majority of men have for the law, refuse to give any weight to the story about the wind and tide, and yet the fact that his minority will seriously find fault with the vessel was out of her course cannot be denied, jury that refused to convict Nutt. What is to apparently, and has to be accounted for. But while an official inquiry is evidently required to determine the exact facts of the case, no such investigation is necessary to demonstrate the have insured Natt's acquittal, without any such fatal culpability of the captain in quitting the deck. The most charitable construction of that is that it was an error of judgment; but errors of judgment which result in the sacrifice of a hundred lives are very apt to be regarded by the world as scarcely distinguishable from crimes.

BURDENS ON NEW-YORK COMMERCE. in this regard requires amendment, as we have The Governor's message issued a year ago already pointed out, and this quite as much in was welcomed by the merchants of this city as the interest of really irresponsible insane crimievidence of his desire to remove a part at least of the heavy burdens upon the commerce of this port. It was expected that he would use his influence to secure such legislation as would assist the merchants in maintaining the su-CIVIL SERVICE REFORM IN NEW-JERSEY. A few years ago certain New Jersey officials premacy of the port against constantly inot high degree in court and council asked the creasing competition; but in this the merchants were doomed to disappointment. The reform Legislature to entrust them with the appointment of the State Librarian. The office should of the pilotage abuses and of the system of paying fees to the harbor masters for berthing be lifted above the fluctuations of politics, they vessels was in substance promised by the Democratic Governor and the Democratic cumbent should be made secure. He had made Legislature, but the end of the year came with himself master of his duties; was conspicuously even a more discouraging outlook than before. efficient. And then, the State ewed him grate-A bill was introduced and defeated providing ful remembrance for the galiantry which had for a reduction of pilot fees. Another bill was cost him many wounds, and the fortitude with introduced and passed providing for a Captain which he bore them. The Legislature passed of the Port and eleven Harbor Masters, their the act, and placed the maimed soldier under salaries to be paid from a legislative approprithe protection of these high-minded gentlemen. ation. One unnecessary feature of the bill was Yesterday four of them voted him out of his the legislating out of office of the present place to make room for one of Governor Abcapable officials in order to make room for those who had rendered partisan services. The Either of the three officials who voted with Governor's nominees, to whom were to be inthe Governor could have prevented the contrusted the important duties of berthing insummation of this outrage. But in our Trenton despatches, where the story is told this morn coming vessels and regulating our commercial ing, it is not stated that any one of them made water-front, were persons wholly unfamiliar with business of the kind. They were merely protest egainst what seems to be a shameful act. Altogether this is an unpleasant exhibition of political favorites. The merchants were not consulted in the matter, and the Governor se-Civil Service Reform, and the Abbett adminislected a statesman from Monroe County, autration starts off about as disgracefully as other from Tompkins County, another from Greene County, another from Clinton County, almost as far away from the salt water as it was possible to go for port wardens of New-York Congress being Democratic, that is to say,

> Luckily for the shipping interests, the faction leaders quarrelled over a distribution of the spoils, and these nominees were not confirmed. Since then the old board of harbor masters have continued to care for the shipping without collecting the fees previously allowed, hoping for recognition by the Legislature under the provisions of the new bill making the office a salaried one. In his last message the Governor retreats from his former position, perhaps because he has no chance of getting his rural nominees confirmed, and advises the repeal of the bill and the transfer of the duties of harbor masters to the Dock Department. The shipping interests are opposed to such a plan, on the ground that endless trouble would result between the parties concerned; and they take issue with the Governor in regard to his assertion that the berthing of vessels and other dock duties have been discharged during the last few months by the Dock Commissioners' men. On the contrary, the harbor masters have done their duties properly and efficiently, and the shipping men have, in many cases, offered to defray their expenses. The Maritime Exchange last spring put itself on record against any invasion by the Dock Department.

> The merchants of this city having to do with maritime commerce are in accord with that part of the Governor's message which advocates a reform in the pilot monopoly and will make a strenuous effort with the present Legislature to lessen its grasp upon commerce. With a Republican Legislature, it is hoped to get an equitable measure adopted.

> John R. McLean's enemies were hard pressed for points against him when they started the silly story that he opposed Senator Pendleton because the Senator's daughter had rejected him. It is to the credit of the Senator-always a gentleman, even in the first blitterness of defeat-that he took the earliest opportunity to contradict this invention. As a rule, stories of this sort, pretending to find in the conduct of lad es motives for the public acts of unmarried men, are merely the devices of blackguards to annoy gentlemen whom they cannot

> The Boston Post thinks August or September early mough to hold the Democratic National Convention. Well, yes, considering that the campaign which follows is to end in the usual defeat, the later it is begun, the less the anguish for those

It has recently been suspected that the Royal Irish Constabulary may not be so absolutely free from partisan bias as has been supposed. The cause of this doubt was the action of the police when called upon to disperse a proclaimed meeting of Nationalats at Coote Hill. On that occasion the Orange nen obeyed the proclamation, and did not hold their meeting. The Nationalists disobeyed the proclamation, and orders were given for their dispersion. This was effected so quietly that nobody was hurt; but when, at Dromore, the Orangemen, not being enjoined from assembling, did so, they were dispersed by the police so roughly that many of them offered severe injuries. Naturally the marked Herence in the conduct of the constabulary on these two occasions caused a good deal of comment, earelessness in leaving the deck in charge of a and the conclusion was drawn that they were really in sympathy with the Nationalists. Up to that time the loyalty of the Orangemen had remained unshaken, and even when charged upon by the police orders, but to see that they were obeyed, and at Dromore they sang the national anthem while dispersing. But their temper also seems to have been changed, for in the riot at Enniskillen, reported in our dispatches on Monday, the Orangemen are said to have joined the Nationalists in stoning the police-after which they vindicated themselves by stoning the Catholic schools, It would appear from these episodes that in Ireland, ne matter what beliefs on polities and theology he lives confided to his care, and he is bound in holds, "a policeman's lot is not a happy one."

> "Holman's candidacy," so Mr. Watterson tells the Washington correspondent of The Cleveland Leader, 'is more a joke than a reality." Mr. Watterson neglects to mention to whom it is a joke. It certainly is not to Mr. Holman. To him, as he doubtless has already said in the proper quarter, it is wilful murder in the first degree, with no extenuating circumstances.

General Husted evidently agrees with the poet Tobin. Tobin wrote the familiar lines:

The man that lays his hand upon a woman Save in the way of kindness, is a wretch Whom t'were gross flattery to name a coward. The fault with Tobin was that he concluded his

poem without suggesting a remody for this uning him, and so the much-abused plea of institution of the restriction of a trial and gather many instructive statistics.

The increased interest which has been felt of late in the citizen soldiery of the different.

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The increased interest which has been felt of late in the Captain of the reef off Gay Head. According to General proposes to make good the deficiency. He laid it down on the table beside him and sat down on the table beside him and sat down the captain of the Panther, moreover, she was a dry late of the reef off Gay Head. According to General proposes to make good the deficiency. He laid it down on the table beside him and sat down the captain of the Panther, moreover, she was a dry late of the reef off Gay Head. According to General proposes to make good the deficiency. He laid it down on the table beside him and sat down the captain of the Panther, moreover, she was a dry late of the captain of the Panther, moreover, she was a dry late of the reef off Gay Head. According to the deficiency. He laid it down on the table beside him and sat down the captain of the Panther, moreover, she was a dry late of the captain of the Panther, moreover, she was a dry late of the captain of the Panther, moreover, she was a dry late of the captain of the Panther, moreover, she was a dry late of the captain of the Panther, moreover, she was a dry late of the captain of the Panther, moreover, she was a dry late of the captain of the Panther, moreover, she was a d gentlemanly kind of laying on of hands. The

sion of judgment in such cases continues until they have well nich passed out of the public mind. The consequence is that when the judgment is exercised nothing comes of it.

A bill has been introduced in the Legislature having for its object the establishment of a uniform standard of time throughout the State. Last year a bill was presented which provided that New-York City time should be the legal standard time for the State. It passed the Senate, but failed in the Assembly. The present act amends the Revised Statutes so that "the standard time throughout the State shall be that of the seventy-fifth meridian of longitude west from Greenwich, by which all courts and public offices, and all legal or official proceedings, shall bereafter be regulated." In the western portion of the State there is a demand for the passage of the measure, since the people out there run their watches by the standard time and yet have to appear in official proceedings, at public offices, etc., by local time.

The Republican Congressional Committee only needs to proceed as well as it has begun to perform great services for the party during this year, when there is so much to be done that needs to be done faithfully and well. The selection of General Hawley for chairman, and Edward McPherson for secretary, could not be improved upon. They possess the confidence of the entire party as well as the requisite abilities and experience. And the same is true of the Executive Committee.

Mr. S. S. Cox spoke of the iron-clad oath as "a rotten remnant of one of the buttresses of arbitrary power." Mr. Cox will see at a glauce that rotten remnant is not as well sustained an alliteration in R as Radway's ready relief. And since rotten remnantas de criptive of the iron-clad oath has nothing to recommend it but its alliteration, being from any other point of view silly, Mr. Cox should see the desirability of asking permission of the House to withdraw the remark for repairs. As it stands it is as inane a winter sunbeam as ever attempted to fire the Southern heart.

Democracy on significant occasions achieves great success at one notable thing. It manages to prove to the satisfaction of intelligent men that its fervent devotion to Reform is nothing more seriou than an exercise in buncombe. Just now it puts forward The Albany Argus to sneer at the legislative investigation of the departments of this city is "a drag-net proceeding." The trouble with those for whom The Arms speaks is that they entertain a well-grounded fear that when the dragnet comes to be examined it will be found that a number of very fishy party brothcen have been

Three bills in regard to the Brooklyn Bridge have already been introduced into the Legislature, and others are promised. One of them proposes to make the Bridge free to foot-passengers. There is much greater need for a reduction of the excessive fare now charged at all hours of the day on the cars. Five cents is a high figure for a ride of one mile. A still more important change, and one which ought to meet at ouce with the favorable onsideration of the Legislature, is that in regard to the control of the Bridge. The present cumber some Board of Trustees has long outlived its use fulness. It should give place to a body like that proposed in the bill introduced by Assemblyman

PERSONAL.

in the city for medical treatment. Senator Kenna, of West Virgiana, is said to bear a strong personal resemblance to Henry Clay.

They say that Miss Ellen Terry went into a Chicago store the other day, looked over some photographs, and then picked up one of herself and asked

Protestant Episcopal Church, will sail for Florida to-morrow. He is suffering from a heavy cold, but said last night that he was not ill, as had been re-ported. He will return home before Lent.

Miln quite approves of Mr. Irving, Indeed, he considers him to be, in some fields of dramatic activity, the greatest man upon the stage to-day. Monsignor Corcoran, of Philadelphia, who has

lately come from Rome, says that the Pope's countenance shows his strength of character. so thin that he seems tall, though in reality he is not so. His capacity for hard labor is unbounded. He spends half the night in work. He is discreet even in his charities. He wastes nothing. He gives generously but judiciously."

"Lake Saul of Tarsus, he is of mean presence," writes a Licerpool Mercury correspondent of Henry George as he appeared at St. James's Hall, London. But he does not hesitate, and he is very decided as to his meaning. He indulges in very few Ameri-canisms. When he said that America would shortly canisms. When he said that America would shortly adopt. Free Trade, the meeting began to-doubt whether he was American at all." The Rev. D. Stark, of Poultney, Vt., is one of the

idest preachers in the Methodist Episcopal Church. His seventy-afth birthday was receatly celebrated at the home of a relative in this city. Dr. Stark is still in vigorous health and oreaches occasionally, the was licensed to preach in 1830, and joined a Methodist Conference the following year. For sixteen years he was a presiding elder.

The fine lately imposed upon M. Clovis Hugues by the French Chamber of Deputies calls to mind the case of Grassot, of the Palais Royal Theatre. At that house there was a rule that bad language should be punished with a fine. Grassot came late to rehearsal one day and was roundly scolded by the director. M. Dormenil. Suddenly he interrupted the tecture with "Pardon me, Monsieur le Directeur; but how much would it cost me to call you an idoot? Dormenil, beiling with fury, t undered, "You would be fined twenty france?" "Incarly france?" murnured the other softly, and with a such; "Ah, me! It is too much; too much! I cannot, in the present state of my finances, afford the pleasure. But if it had been only five france."

Prince Albert Victor's recent entry upon his wenty-first year reminds The St. James's Gazette that never yet has the eldest son of a Prince of Wales come of age during his father's lifetime and before his father's accession to the throne. "Frederick, son of George II., who came nearest to doing so, was," it says, "tweaty years and a few months old when, in 1727, the latter became King. It would, however, be misleading to compare the status of Prince Albert Victor with that of his ancestor, who never set foot in England till a year and a half after he had succeeded to the position of heir-apparent to the crown. Prince Frederick, indeed, received the Garter in his tenth year and a peerage (with the Garter in his tenth year and a peerage (with the title of Duke of Ediaburgh) in his twentieth; but scarcely any other official cognizance was taken of his existence as an English prince. No eldest son of a Prince of Wales, being such, has married; and there is only one instance of a marriage baing contracted by a daughter of a Prince of Wales." If, then, Queen Victoria lives and reigns after the 8th of January next, and both her eldest son and his eldest son are likewise then living, the British Parliament will truly have "a case unprecedented" upon its hands in dealing with the question of an annuity and a separate establishment for Albert nuity and a separate establishment for Albert

In the trial of James Nutt on Saturday, Senator Voorhees attracted much attention. When he came in after the noon recess, The l'itaburg Dispatch relates, he sat down beside the prisoner and then suddenly got up again, as though something harder than an ordinary thought had struck him. "Voorhees is going to speak now," the people whispered. But he didn't. He rose to the full six feet and more of his height, thrust his left hand into his right coat-tail pocket and drew out a large apple,

does strike us that the provision fixing the minimum of punishment fails to provide for enough lashes.

The Boston Advertiser asks for the "suspension of judgment" on the City of Columbus disaster. The request invites the comment that as a rule suspension of judgment in such cases continues until Washington Sanda San

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21,-J. C. New, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, was mable to attend to his Seial duties to-day, owing to a slight indisposition, MAUCH CHUNK, Penn., Jan. 22.-Judge Harry E. Packer, president of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, who has been seriously ill for several days passed an uncomfortable night, and consequently was quite weak this morning. He improved during the day. His friends are now hopeful of his

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.-The Emperor of Japan has conferred upon General Horace Capron, of this city, the second order of the Rising Sun, as a mark of his appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the latter to Japan, especially in the development of the resources of the Island Yeso, the most northerly of the Japanese group.

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 22.—Matthew Arnold lectured

in the Unitarian Church here last night before an addience which packed the edifice to the portals. Many persons were unable to obtain an entrance. Mr. Arnold's subject was "Numbers."

TALKS ABOUT TOWN.

MR. VANDERBILT'S MEISSONIERS. William Hart, the lands up-painter, -William H. Van-terbilt has a number of very fine Meissoniers. At the reception which he gave to the artists last month, I was standing in admiration before one of two, representing a French General receiving dispatches. Mr. said to me," What do you think of that picture ?" I said,"I like it very much. I cannot say that I admire all of Meissonier's works, for many of his latest productions seem to me to be inferior to his earlier paintings. But this has much of the wonderful qualities of the old Dutch school. It has great finish, as have all his pictures, but it is chiefly admirable for its tones, for the manner in which the blacks blend into olive greens, and these again into yellowish grays. This is by far the finest Meissonier I have ever seen." "Well," said Mr. Vanderbilt, "I will tell you how I got it. When Melssonier was painting my portrait I asked him, point blank, which of his pletures was in his opinion his finest work. He told me of this ture. I learned from him who owned it, and seut an agent to him. He saw the owner, and asked if he was willing to part with his Meissonier. "Yes," answered the gentleman, "but I dont believe any one is willing to buy it, for I ask a very large price," "How much," said my agent smiling. "Somuch," said the owner. "Here is. a check for the amount," said my agent, and in this way I became the owner of the finest McIssonier in existence. And it is curious now all the artists single it out."

WHAT A DENVER VISITOR SAYS.

Thomas E. Poole, of Denser, Colora to, merchant.—Den ver has passed through the feverish days of her career, and has now entered upon a period of steady, healthy growth. The city is no longer overran with speculators, or men whose aim in life is to cheat their living out of the rest of the world. Less building was done in 1883 than in the two years preceding it. Nevertheless the prices of desirable building lots remain very high. You can't buy a corner lot on any of the business streets for less than \$20,000. I think Denver is the best equipped of all the larger cities in the far West. The fire and police depart ionis are exceedingly well managed; the streets are well payed and lighted, and the sewerage and gas systems of the city are equal to the best in the East. Money is plenty and can be bired at a comparatively low figure. The business of the past year has been very satisfactory. We have seen times when we have made more money, but none when we have handled so many goods. Denver, you know, has become the great distributing point for the central Rocky Mountain region. Our trade extends back into the interior for five hundred miles, and is steadily neroasing.

STATE SHIELDS ON THE GREAT PEDESTAL Joseph W. Dreze', banker.—The rumor that the Executive Committee of the Bartholdi Statue has made an appeal to Congress, or intends to make such an appeal for the purpose of obtaining funds for the completion of the work, is most untrue. It is possible that when everything Ex-Senator Renben E. Fenton, of Jamestown, is | is fluished the Government will be asked to spend a little money in beautifying the island surroundings of the statue. That is all. We are getting on pretty well with our collection of money, which comes in all the time from one quarter and another. To-day I am drafting a sort of appeal to the Governors of the different States and Territories asking them to make official appropriations for the coats-of-arms which are to be a part of the decoration of the clerk who it was.

General James H. Wison, formerly president of In Richard M. Hunt's plan these are to be carved in stone the New-York and New-England Railroad, is en- of the same quality as that used for the rest of the pedgaged in preparing a volume of criticisms and milli- estal. But the suggestion has been made, and meets with tary essays, the productions of his pen during the general approval, that bronze shields of the State arms shall be suspended upon the pedestal Instead. The effect The Rev. Dr. W. F. Mergan, rector of St. Thomas's beyond any question will be much finer, as the color con trast with the stone will be a striking feature in the appearance of the pedestal from a distance, if the shields are made of a proper size. It would be necessary to have ported. He will return below before Lent.

The world may never know exactly what Mr.
Henry Irving thinks of Mr. George C. Miln, but some people may be interested to learn that Mr. | in the statue which we have tried to inculcate, but no

> MUCH PROPERTY IN THE MARKET. W. P. Holly, real estate. - In half a lifetime spent in

real estate, I have never seen so much property in the market. Our books are literally overloaded. It is alike "He is in "for sales" or "for rants." downward. They must come down. Sales are very slow. Owners are holding on at old prices, but buyers will not touch property as raics offered. Rents of big houses and high-priced flats must come down or there will be vacanics by the hundred. Medium-priced houses and flats will hold their own for the present in rents. property for which there is any demand just now. To low you the extent of the glut, we have over 150 houses or sale, 32 houses to rept furnished, 100 boarding houses which there are accommodations, over 50 houses in which there are furnished rooms to rent.

JOHN MCCULLOUGH'S IMPROVED HEALTH. Colonel William M. Conner.—John McCullough is hav-ng an excellent season on the road. I think it will prove os of the best he has ever had. He is in Massachusetts at present, but will come to New-York in February. His alth has improved very much this winter. Mr. Mc Cullough tells me that he has gained twelve pounds in weight since the season opened, and has not missed a single performance. This I think speaks pretty well for a man whom certain unkind people were for laying away on a shelf a short time ago,

GENERAL NOTES.

It is asserted by The Jewish World that one of the accused in the recent "blood accusation" trial in Hangary, an old man named Solomon Schwarz, has been expelled from several villages and towns in which he at-tempted to settle in business, and is still wandering from place to place in search of a home.

The Paris Chief of Police recently issued a decree prohibiting the throwing into the streets of the contents of domestic dust-bins and waste-baskets. This measure, designed to promote the public health, has aroused the opposition of the rag-pickers, who have ad dreased a solemn remonstrance to the Prefect, setting forth that the "profession" consists of about 50,000 persons whose business is sure to be ruined if the decree is not revoked; and that no pestilence ever was or ever will be bred by leaving rags, bones, etc., in the gutters for an hour or two every day. The chiffonnier is one of the most familiar features of the French capital, and he will not readily suffer himself to be exterminated.

A shocking state of affairs is discovered in openhagen, the Danish capital, by a call for contribu tions toward the ersetion of an infant asylum in that city. Over two thousand illegitimate children are annually born in Copenhagen," says the extraordinary document, the author of which is a well-known elergyman. " sad enough thus," he continues "but sudder still the fact that according to declarations publicly made by reputable playsteinus, thousands of these children are farmed out to live and die under the most scandalously miserable conditions. Within the last few days we have seen examples of the sort of protection the law affords these poor waits. In six months a single worthy couple in this city have 'expedited' five of these children, four of them fortunately to the cemetery. When a stop was put to this interesting industry at last it was not because the children had been 'expedited,' but because there had been fraud and forecry in the money transactions in which they were the ware disposed of. In another case a 'father' so mairreated an adopted child that it died within twenty-four hours after he had been paid 450 krones expressly to 'expedite' it. How many such cases are there in Copenhazen that are never discovered or punished!" The population of Copenhazen is about 250,000; in 1882 the total number of caldiers born in the city was 9,634, and those born out of wedled thus constituted more than one-firth of the whole. It is proposed to establish not only an infant asymm, but a society as well for the support and maintenance of a properly guaranteed system of outside nursing of the waifs.

The manufacture of salt has grown more rapditions. Within the last few days we have seen examples

The manufacture of salt has grown more rapidly than almost any other industry of late years in Callfornia, which is the only State in the Union where the